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*Cholera, yellow fever, plague, and smallpox, etc.—Continued.*

## SMALLPOX—Continued.

| Places.                    | Date.              | Cases. | Deaths. | Remarks.        |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------|---------|-----------------|
| Gibraltar.....             | Dec. 4-Feb. 18...  | 10     | 1       |                 |
| Greece:                    |                    |        |         |                 |
| Athens.....                | Dec. 3-Feb. 10...  | 34     | 7       |                 |
| Hungary:                   |                    |        |         |                 |
| Budapesth.....             | Dec. 18-Dec. 24... | 1      |         |                 |
| India:                     |                    |        |         |                 |
| Bombay.....                | Nov. 15-Jan. 30... |        | 844     |                 |
| Calcutta.....              | Nov. 20-Jan. 20... |        | 43      |                 |
| Ceylon.....                | Dec. 10-Dec. 16... |        | 1       |                 |
| Madras.....                | Jan. 18-Jan. 19... |        | 1       |                 |
| Kurrachee.....             | Jan. 15-Jan. 28... | 20     | 7       |                 |
| Italy:                     |                    |        |         |                 |
| Milan.....                 | Dec. 17-Jan. 13... | 3      |         |                 |
| Japan:                     |                    |        |         |                 |
| Nagasaki.....              | Jan. 1-Jan. 10...  | 1      |         |                 |
| Yokohama.....              | Nov. 19-Nov. 25... | 1      |         |                 |
| Mexico:                    |                    |        |         |                 |
| Chihuahua.....             | Dec. 24-Feb. 3...  |        | 38      |                 |
| City of Mexico.....        | Dec. 18-Feb. 11... | 83     | 48      |                 |
| C. Porfirio Diaz.....      | Feb. 11-Feb. 17... | 5      | 2       |                 |
| Nuevo Laredo.....          | Jan. 1-Dec. 31...  |        | 16      |                 |
| Vera Cruz.....             | Dec. 22-Feb. 24... |        | 13      |                 |
| New Brunswick:             |                    |        |         |                 |
| Campbellton.....           | Jan. 22-Feb. 3...  | 45     | 0       |                 |
| Gloucester County.....     | Jan. 25-Feb. 15... | 39     | 0       |                 |
| Moncton.....               | Jan. 19.....       |        |         | Cases reported. |
| Northumberland County..... | Feb. 1-Feb. 15...  | 1      | 0       |                 |
| Restigouche County.....    | Jan. 16-Feb. 15... | 73     | 0       |                 |
| Westmoreland County.....   | Jan. 18-Feb. 15... | 3      | 0       |                 |
| Ontario:                   |                    |        |         |                 |
| Amherstberg.....           | Feb. 11-Mar. 3...  | 4      |         |                 |
| Brant County.....          | Jan. 27-Feb. 24... | 1      | 0       |                 |
| Essex County.....          | Oct. 30-Feb. 24... | 239    | 0       |                 |
| Frontenac County.....      | Jan. 14-Feb. 24... | 1      | 0       |                 |
| Kent County.....           | Nov. 28-Jan. 14... | 2      | 0       |                 |
| Lambton County.....        | Dec. 30-Feb. 24... | 4      | 0       |                 |
| Middlesex County.....      | Dec. 6-Feb. 24...  | 4      | 0       |                 |
| York County.....           | Feb. 13-Feb. 24... | 17     | 0       |                 |
| Quebec:                    |                    |        |         |                 |
| Bonaventure County.....    | Jan. 16-Feb. 5...  | 20     | 0       |                 |
| Gaspé Basin.....           | Jan. 26-Feb. 22... | 33     |         |                 |
| Kamouraska County.....     | Aug. 18-Feb. 5...  | 273    | 0       |                 |
| Matane County.....         | Dec. 16-Feb. 5...  | 3      | 0       |                 |
| Russia:                    |                    |        |         |                 |
| Moscow.....                | Nov. 26-Feb. 3...  | 25     | 3       |                 |
| Odessa.....                | Dec. 3-Feb. 10...  | 75     | 18      |                 |
| Riga.....                  | Nov. 1-Nov. 30...  |        | 15      |                 |
| St. Petersburg.....        | Dec. 3-Feb. 10...  | 173    | 47      |                 |
| Vladivostock.....          | Nov. 1-Nov. 30...  | 3      |         |                 |
| Warsaw.....                | Nov. 26-Feb. 10... |        | 50      |                 |
| Scotland:                  |                    |        |         |                 |
| Edinburgh.....             | Jan. 14-Jan. 20... | 1      |         |                 |
| Leith.....                 | Jan. 1-Jan. 6...   | 1      |         |                 |
| Spain:                     |                    |        |         |                 |
| Cadiz.....                 | Oct. 1-Oct. 31...  |        | 5       |                 |
| Corunna.....               | Dec. 3-Feb. 17...  |        | 17      |                 |
| Madrid.....                | Dec. 3-Feb. 3...   |        | 88      |                 |
| Straits Settlements:       |                    |        |         |                 |
| Singapore.....             | Nov. 5-Jan. 13...  |        | 12      |                 |
| Switzerland:               |                    |        |         |                 |
| Geneva.....                | Jan. 7-Jan. 28...  | 7      |         |                 |
| Zurich.....                | Jan. 7-Jan. 27...  | 2      | 1       |                 |
| Turkey:                    |                    |        |         |                 |
| Constantinople.....        | Dec. 19-Feb. 12... |        | 2       |                 |
| Smyrna.....                | Dec. 4-Feb. 4...   |        | 11      |                 |
| Uruguay:                   |                    |        |         |                 |
| Montevideo.....            | Nov. 26-Dec. 2...  | 1      |         |                 |

## EPIDEMIC NOTES.

[Translated in this Bureau from the "Veröffentlichungen des Kaiserlichen Gesundheitsamtes," Berlin, February 14, 1900.]

*Plague.*

JAPAN.—From December 19 to 26, 1899, 20 new cases were reported, 17 of which ended fatally by December 28. Of these cases, 7 occurred

at Kobe, 12 at Osaka, and 1 case at Hamiatsu, a provincial town situated on the railway line from Osaka to Yokahama. Since the outbreak, 46 cases have been officially reported. Of these, 39 were fatal.

The disease has taken an epidemic character only in Kobe and Osaka, but appearances indicate that it will spread thence by degrees along the principal lines of traffic. By the end of December dead rats, in which the presence of plague bacillus was demonstrated, were found at different stations along the road from Osaka, more particularly in the station warehouses. The Japanese authorities have undertaken extensive measures against plague. In all the large cities the citizens are required to give their houses a thorough cleaning under police supervision.

**BRAZIL.**—During the week ended January 15 only 1 case of plague was reported at Sao Paulo. According to reliable testimony 1 fatal case of plague was verified by physicians on January 16, at Rio de Janeiro, in the person of a boy, the son of the machinist on the President's official yacht.

**NEW CALEDONIA.**—The importation of plague into Nouméa is by some attributed to infection from jute bags imported from India; by others to the arrival of a schooner from Mauritius. The dwelling houses in the native quarter of Nouméa are dirty and unsanitary, and in the warehouses it is reported that hundreds of dead rats have been found.

#### *Cholera.*

**TURKEY.**—Reports from the International Council of Health at Constantinople state that since November, 1899, cholera has prevailed at Mascat, Mattrah, and the river valleys. At Bendir-Bouchir, the port city of the northeast coast of the Persian Gulf, the number of deaths is increased fourfold.

**BRITISH CALCUTTA.**—During the week ended January 13 there were 30 cholera deaths.

#### **ARGENTINA.**

[Inclosure 2 in No. 766—Translated from *El Pais*, January 5, 1900.]

*Great demographic progress—Diminution of the death rate in Buenos Ayres—The year 1899 compared with preceding years.*

**BUENOS AYRES, January 4, 1900.**

Thanks to the perfection which the registration of civil life in Buenos Ayres has reached, the facts relative to the year which has terminated not many hours since are already known.

With anxiety more than impatience have we awaited the figures of the last hour in order to close our tables and deduct the teaching of experience.

These figures are now available, and their results confirm in full the estimates we made at the beginning of last year, taking into account that, thanks to the beneficial influence exerted in the city by the establishment and development of the drains and the other works of salubrity, the general death rate had proportionately diminished.

In the year 1899 the total number of deaths occurring in the city and municipality of Buenos Ayres was 14,908; but deducting 1,342, which is the number of stillbirths, which is not taken into account in universal statistics, as those are not considered as having died who had not reached life outside of the maternal womb, it will be seen that the real number of deaths was 13,566.

The population of Buenos Ayres on December 31, 1898, was 765,744, according to the estimates published in the monthly bulletin of municipal statistics.

In keeping with this same bulletin, the last number of which corresponded to November 30, the population on that day was 792,013, and, adding the difference between the birth and death rate of December and the probable immigration of that month, we can estimate that on December 31, 1899, Buenos Ayres possessed a population of 795,000.

The number of houses supplied with drainage was 24,805 on November 30, and we can estimate that in round numbers 24,900 were supplied therewith on December 31 last.

With these estimates we can present the table showing the population and death rate of this capital during the last ten years, as follows :

*Population and death rate in the city of Buenos Ayres.*

| Year.     | Population. | Deaths— |                    | Houses with drainage. |
|-----------|-------------|---------|--------------------|-----------------------|
|           |             | Total.  | Per 1,000 inhabit. |                       |
| 1890..... | 547, 144    | 16, 417 | 30.0               | 2, 287                |
| 1891..... | 535, 060    | 13, 014 | 24.0               | 4, 349                |
| 1892..... | 554, 713    | 13, 341 | 24.1               | 10, 309               |
| 1893..... | 580, 371    | 13, 000 | 22.4               | 15, 002               |
| 1894..... | 603, 012    | 13, 702 | 22.7               | 18, 096               |
| 1895..... | 663, 854    | 14, 947 | 22.5               | 20, 148               |
| 1896..... | 712, 095    | 13, 645 | 19.2               | 22, 099               |
| 1897..... | 738, 484    | 14, 216 | 19.2               | 23, 424               |
| 1898..... | 765, 744    | 13, 533 | 17.7               | 24, 120               |
| 1899..... | 795, 000    | 13, 566 | 17.1               | 24, 900               |

An explanation of this table leads one to the profound conviction that the development of the works of salubrity produces an evident and beneficial effect, lessening proportionately the tribute to death.

Thus we see that since 1890, when the drainage system was commenced, the death rate has continued to constantly diminish in measure that the number of houses provided with this system increased.

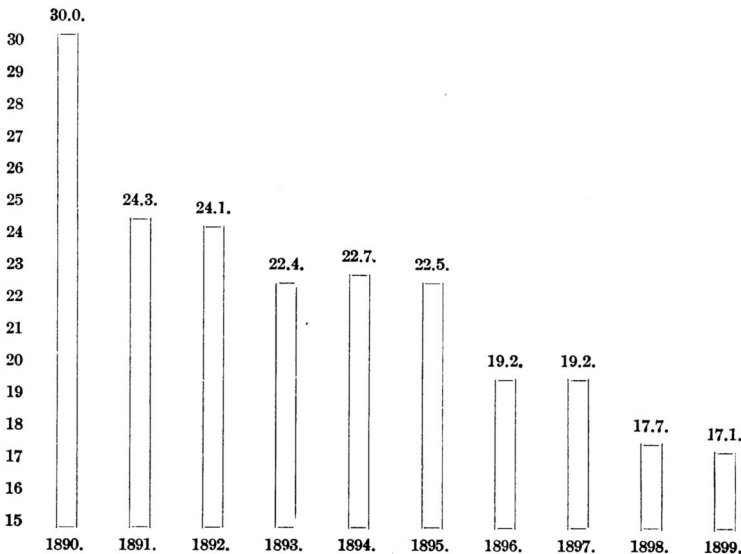
In the last years Buenos Ayres, which before 1890 was one of the unhealthy cities, having an annual death rate of 25 to 30 persons per each 1,000 inhabitants, has proceeded to improve up to the point that it may be placed among the healthiest in the world.

In effect, in a list of 90 of the chief cities of the world, Buenos Ayres occupies among them the fourteenth or fifteenth place the death rate of which does not exceed 17 per thousand, while other cities as important as Rome, London, Philadelphia, New York, Vienna, Budapest, Liverpool, have a death rate of 18 to 25 per thousand.

The diminution occurring in 1899 with respect to the previous year is six-tenths per thousand, a proportion which should be considered as very considerable, as it occurs upon already very low figures.

In order that the diminution of the death rate may be more clearly noted, we give the following graphic table making it more visible :

Death rate per 1,000 inhabitants in the city of Buenos Ayres, 1890-1899—



The chief importance of these figures lies therein that they are not the result of hazard or accident, but that they constitute a foreseen and infallible result of the labor of the human intelligence applied to the preservation of its own existence.

GABRIEL CARRASCO.